

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 24 have been amended. Claim 1 and 13 are amended to clarify the configuration details of the metal lines. Therefore, Claims 1-24 remain pending in the present application.

Support for the amendments can be found in the specification and claims as filed. Accordingly, the amendments do not constitute the addition of new matter. Reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and following comments is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the application regards as his invention.

Applicant has amended the claims to comply with these requirements. These amendments do not contain any new matter.

In view of the amendments to Claims 1 and 13, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Allowable Subject Matter

With respect to paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the Office Action stated that Claims 1 and 13 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office Action. Claims 2-12, and 24-24 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response thereto, the applicant has respectfully amended Claim 1 and Claim 13 to particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter. Therefore, the

amended Claim 1 and Claim 13 are now allowable. Since the amended Claim 1 and Claim 13 are allowable, Claims 2-12 depend from the amended Claim 1 are likewise believed to be allowable, and Claims 14-24 depend from the amended Claim 13 are likewise believed to be allowable.

Therefore, the applicant respectfully requests that the claim objections be withdrawn.

Conclusions

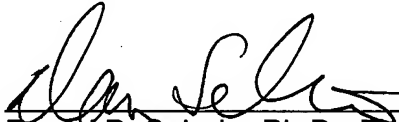
For all of the above reasons, applicants submit that the specification and claims are now in proper form, and that the claims define patentably over the prior art of record. Therefore applicants respectfully request issuance for this case at the Office Action's earliest convenience.

Claims 1-26 are pending, with claims being independent.

Respectfully submitted,

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